

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 PPT-01 SCA-01 L-03 DHA-02 H-02

IO-13 /035 W

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P 010854Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3398

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 18664

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC

SUBJ: RECENT GOP ACTIONS AGAINST AMERICAN CITIZEN CLERGY

REFS: A) MANILA 18528; B) STATE 291157

1. IT WILL BE OBSERVED FROM REPORTING CABLES ON CASES OF GERLOCK, BOOMS, O'BRIEN, AND MURPHY THAT MOST DECISIONS ARE ALLEGED TO RESIDE IN HANDS IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONER REYES. ABSENCE OF REYES FROM PHILIPPINES IS BEING CITED BY SEVERAL GOP OFFICIALS AS REASON TO STALL OUR VARIOUS DEMARCHES.

2. REYES HAS BEEN IN NEW YORK WITH MRS. MARCOS AND IS REPORTEDLY DUE IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK. IN ORDER BRING MAXIMUM EFFORT TO BEAR ON REYES AND TO IMPRESS UPON HIM SERIOUS U.S. GOVT CONCERN WITH SUMMARY DEPORTATIONS AND ABSENCE CONSULAR ACCESS U.S. CITIZENS, SUGGEST DEPT URGENTLY SEEK ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH REYES THROUGH PHILIPPINE EMBASSY.

3. REYES, INCIDENTALLY, IS QUOTED IN DECEMBER 1 TIMES-JOURNAL AS COMPLIMENTING HIMSELF THAT DEPORTATION OF AP CORRESPONDENT ZEITLIN "HARDLY RAISED A RIPPLE" IN U.S. PRESS. IF READING ON MISSIONARIES IS CONSTRUED TO BE THE SAME, WE MAY EXPECT ADDITIONAL ARRESTS AND DEPORTATIONS TO FOLLOW.

SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANILA18664
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760444-0984
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761283/aaaacugf.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MANILA 18528, 76 STATE 291157
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECENT GOP ACTIONS AGAINST AMERICAN CITIZEN CLERGY
TAGS: CASC, (GERLOCK), (BOOMS), (O'BRIEN), (MURPHY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006